Your Problems

By Ann Landers

DEAR ANN: Our 17-year-old daughter fancies herself an authority on all subjects. Please decide for us who is wrong.

Recently we invited an exchange student for dinner. We also invited the school principal, my husband's boss and his wife. I was mortified when I noticed our daughter had tucked a napkin under her chin and was vigorously mopping up gravy with her bread.

Now, Mrs. Landers, Marie was reared with the best of everything. She never in her life saw such behavior at our table. I caught the boss' wife staring at her, obviously shocked.

Then I saw the exchange student at my daughter's left, also with a napkin under her chin, mopping up gravy. It became apparent Marie was attempting to keep the foreign girl company with these atrocious maners.

The next morning I told Marie she behaved like a boor, that she should have corrected the ignorant foreigner and should not have put herself on the same low level. Marie said the girl trembled with fright when she discovered no one else was eating like that. Her thought was to make the guest comfortable.

I say Marie owed it to her parents to use the manners she was reared with. After all, the boss and his wife are important to us and I'd hate them to think we didn't know better. Who is right?—AMERICA'S FIRST SETTLERS.

You're Indians, of Course

Dear First Settlers (you're Indians, of course): Sometimes we can learn from our children, and this is one of those times, Mother.

Your daughter demonstrated character and humility when she placed feelings ahead of etiquette.

Your reference to the "ignorant foreigner" exposed your ignorance. Manners vary according to country. In China a loud belch is a compliment to the cook.

A 17-year-old with such solid values is a credit to her parents. Be proud of her.

* * *

DEAR ANN: My mother-in-law is 64 and in excellent health. She moved in with us six years ago when her husband died. To this day I can't recall anyone inviting her. She still owns the family home, but rents it out furnished, and keeps telling everyone she could never live alone and doesn't intend to.

My wife has two sisters who never call their mother unless they need a sitter, in a hurry. They both have bigger homes and more money than we have.

My mother-in-law has never been wrong in her life. If I say "black" she says "white." She corrects my English in front of the children and is not happy unless she's arguing with someone (usually me). The only way I could possibly please her would be to drop dead. Please, some help from you.—PHIL.

Dear Phil: Don't drop dead to please your mother-in-law. She'd miss you because there wouldn't be anyone around to argue with.

Insist that your wife call a family pow-wow and decide which of the sisters is next in line to enjoy the pleasure of Mother's company. If no one wants to take her, she should move back to her own place and rent part of it to some pleasant school teachers — for company.

Champagne Appetite

DEAR ANN: I'm 20, male, in college, like to go places and do things, but I'm short on dough.

A certain chick with plenty of zing, as well as unlimited financial resources, has taken a shine to me. Unfortunately, she has a champagne appetite which is incompatible with my beer income.

Last night she stuffed a ten spot and said "I'm starved. Let's go to Charley's to eat." (Charley's isn't a hash joint.)

I accepted the money but felt uneasy and said so. I know she'll offer again and I don't know how to handle it. She claims I'm Mid-Victorian. Am I?—SHOESTRING SCHOLAR.

Dear Shoestring: In the future tell her "Thanks a lot, but no thanks." If she wants your company she can manage within your financial framework. A fellow's self-respect should take precedence over a girl's appetite.

* * *

(Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of this newspaper, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.)

Poodles for Fashion Show

Dauphin Noir and Mystic Jester, poodle pets of Mr. Osmund Matson, MacDonald Drive, who pose here with Miss Joan Beard, will be taking part in the fashion show sponsored by the Catholic Women's League at 2.30 p.m. Saturday, in St. Patrick's auditorium. "Travel Time" will be the theme for the styles presented by Scurrah's and hats from La Mode Millinery. Mrs. C. M. Day, general convener, will be assisted by Miss Beard and Mrs. W. C. Wilson will convene the tea. Mrs. Theodore Taylor, national league president, will open the affair.

Hair-Raising Fiji Adventure

Medal First for Mother, Then Quiet New Life

VANCOUVER (C.P.) — A plucky mother of four who fought a battle with a berserk, axe-wielding Fijian native last May, arived in Vancouver Friday to seek a new life in Canada.

Mrs. David Collins, who still bears the scars of a fight to save herself, her housegirl and one of her children, will first receive the George Medal from the governor-general in Ottawa for her bravery.

Mrs. Collins, who arrived here aboard the Ss Himalaya, was widowed in January, 1957, when her husband, a colonial service district officer in Fiji, was drowned in a boating accident.

A former nursing sister, she plans to resume her career in Montreal. After her husband's death she became health officer to the Fiji administration.

A slight, attractive woman, she tried to disarm a Fijian when he attacked the housegirl. The man then attacked Mrs. Collins and her daughter, Bridget.

Mrs. Collins was wounded in the fight, but her child, shielded by her mother's body, was unharmed. The housegirl was dead when police arrived and the Fijian went to jail for 10 years.

It wasn't the first time Mrs. Collins had faced death.

In 1942 she was a nursing sister aboard the troopship Strathallan which was torpedoed during the North African landings.

Mrs. Collins was taken aboard a destroyer.

Berlin Exodus Double Since Start of Crisis

BERLIN (UPI)—The number of persons moving out of West Berlin has more than doubled sincce the Soviets opened their campaign against the city last year. Paul Hertz, head of the city's economics department, said that during February 373 persons moved to parts of West Germany. During the same period a year ago, the average monthly number was only about 175.

Ex-Star Stars As Housewife

CHICAGO (AP) — Barbara Ann Scott, Canada's former Olympic figure-skating champion who gave up stardom as queen of the ice to become a housewife, is happy with her choice.

A lot of wives won't believe this, but Barbara Ann — as Mrs. Tom V. King—serves her husband his breakfast in bed every morning. To her, a happy home life is a career.

"I don't miss the glamour," she said. "To me it was hard work. You never could plan your day. I enjoyed rehearsals, but when the stadium was empty after a show, it was the loneliest feeling in the world."

Barbara Ann married her press agent Sept. 17, 1955, after four years with Arthur Wirtz' Hollywood Ice Review.

They live in a 14th-floor apartment with a miniature French poodle named Prince, a turtle named Burtle, and a parakeet called Leroy.

Being a housewife seems a simple thing to most folks, but to Barbara Ann it's a dream come true.

"I used to carry along an extra wardrobe trunk filled with pots and pans and photographs of friends and loved ones just to make a hotel room seem like home," she said.

"I'd cook for myself and bake muffins and after the show would bring in friends. I don't drink or smoke or go to night clubs, so I was just a misfit."

Husband Tom, now an advertising executive, tried to discourage her from giving up a promising theatrical career, but he is the first to encourage her to be an all-out housewife.

"I believe wives should look after their husbands or else don't get married," she said.

"I do all his personal laundry by hand, keep his dresser drawers tidy. I don't think a husband should have to worry about picking up his own clothes or shining his razor after he uses it."

"And," says Tom, "in the 3½ years we've been married I've never known her to be cross or say a negative thing about anyone."

Three Colleges Win $639,500

OTTAWA (UPI)—The Canada Council has awarded $639,500 to three universities for buildiing purposes.

The crown-endowed council granted $330,500 to the University of Saskatchewan for the first wing on a new arts building; $187,650 to Toronto's Trinity College for an addition to the women's residence, and $121,316 to Ottawa's St. Patrick's College for an addition to house the arts faculty.

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April Wedding Set

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Macdonald, 400 Craigflower Road, announce the engagement of their youngest daughter, Dorothy May, to Mr. Maxwell Franklin Grund, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Grund, 1150 Empress Avenue. The wedding will take place in St. John's Anglican Church at 7 p.m., April 17, with Canon George Biddle officiating. Attendants will be Mrs. Alvin Hunter and Miss Carole Grund. Best man will be Mr. Darold Mills and usher Mr. Bill Holman.—(Photo by Ryan's Studio)

Gibson Girl Look

Just Like Grandma

NEW YORK (UPI) — To show that there is nothing new under the sun or in fashion, the Brooklyn Museum this week put on a nostalgic exhibit of clothes like grandmother used to wear.

Grandma, for those too young to recall, wore puffy sleeves, shirtwaist dresses and separates, just as her fashionable offspring is this spring.

The museum exhibit features 13 costumes from the 1890s, when Charles Dana Gibson in his drawings established a debonair girl with a flair which all fashionable women of the period tried to copy.

The Gibson Girl's shirtwaist dress was a major contribution to fashion; it has been a favorite through the years and this season is back in every imaginable variation. Shirts and skirts (separates, we call them these days) also began with the Gibson Girl, said the museum.

There is one outstanding difference between today's and 1890s fashion plate. Gibson Girl skirts dusted the floor.

Planting a Garden?
BUCKERFIELD'S TESTED SEEDS

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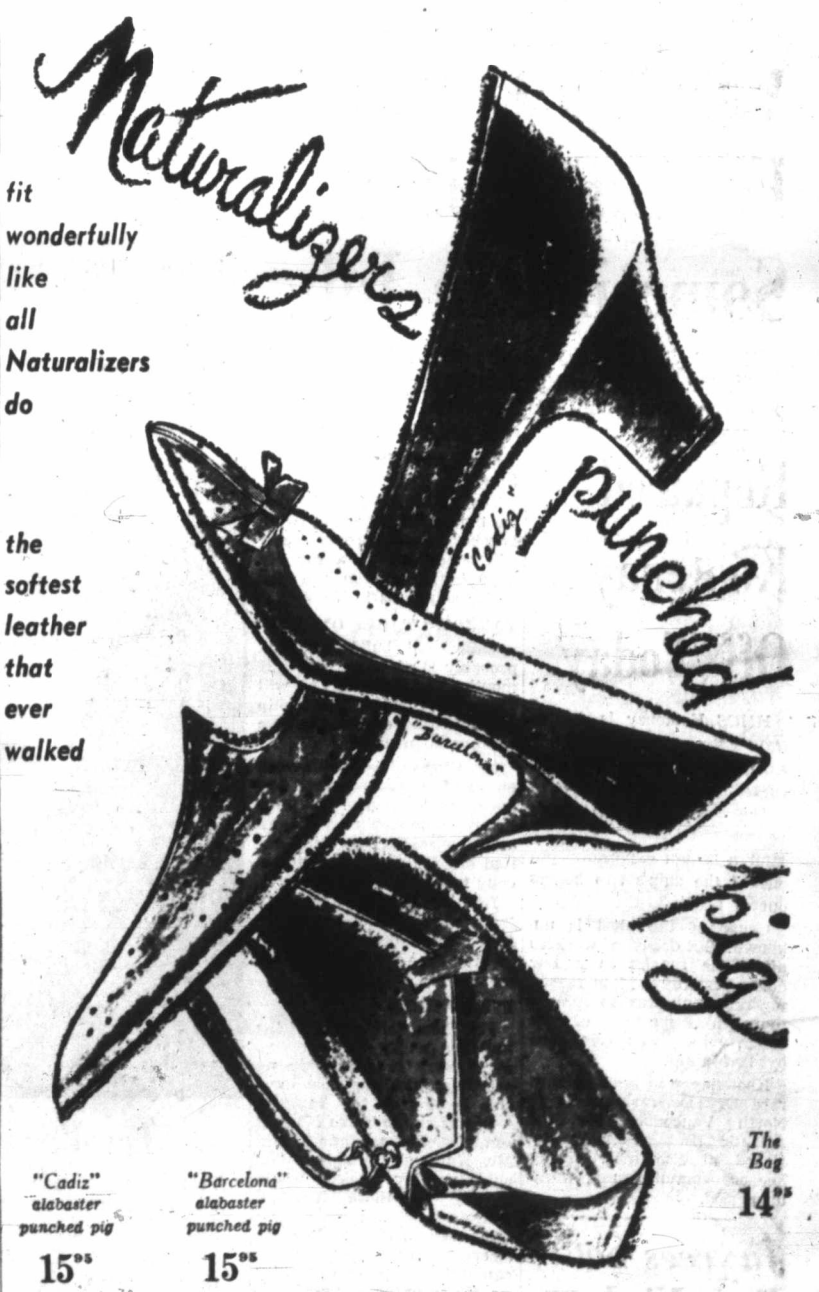

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